

REMARKS

In the December 7, 2010 Office Action¹, the Examiner:

- Objected to claim 12 as having a misspelling;
- Rejected claims 1-8, 13, 14, and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 63105805 to Saito et al. ("Saito") in view of DE 3531011 to Jens ("Jens");
- Rejected claims 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0475152 to Ishida ("Ishida") in view of Saito;
- Indicated that claims 12, 15, 20, and 21 were allowed; and
- Indicated that claim 11 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the present amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1-6, 9, 10, 16, 18, and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer; amend claim 7; rewrite claim 11 in independent form; and correct the misspelling in claim 12. Claims 7, 8, 11-15, 17, 20, and 21 are pending.

Claim 7 has been amended to recite that the "manipulating member" is "mounted on said carrying member adjacent to said pressing member" and is "separated from said pressing member," as is shown, by way of example and not limitation, in the embodiment of Fig. 5. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has stated that Saito teaches a manipulating member (Fig. 1) disposed near a front face of a carrying member (Fig. 1, 1) and adjacent to a pressing member (Fig. 1, 20). Referring to Fig. 1 of Saito, the Examiner appears to consider that an annular member 18, shown as a unitary member, includes a pressing part and a

¹ The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterization of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

manipulating part. However, Saito does not teach the revised feature of amended claim 7, i.e., "a manipulating member disposed near said front face of said carrying member and mounted on said carrying member adjacent to said pressing member, said manipulating member being separated from said pressing member," nor do any of the other references describe or suggest this revised feature. Adjustment ring 10 of Ishida, for example, is mounted between sleeve 9 and guide bush 8, and is not mounted on any "carrier member" as claim 7 requires. Moreover, nut 36, which is apparently the element referenced at page 3, paragraph 4, merely displaces the main spindle 13 and does not act as the "manipulating member" of claim 7 and is not located "near said front face" as claim 7 requires.

Applicants therefore submit that for at least this reason claim 7, and claim 8 which depends from claim 7, are allowable over the art of record, and that allowance is hereby respectfully requested.

Having rewritten claim 11 in independent form, Applicants submit that claim 11 is now in a condition for allowance, and that allowance is also hereby respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that the remaining pending claims 12, 15, 20, and 21 are allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of all pending claims 7, 8, 11-15, 17, 20, and 21.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge
any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

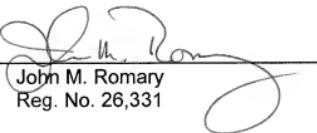
Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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